

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 131330Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1502

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

COMUSFORAZ

CINCEUR

CINCLANT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: AZOREAN DEVELOPMENTS

REF: PONTA DELGADA 304

1. ELECTION RESULTS: LATER FIGURES ON THE ELECTION RESULTS IN THE AZORES SHOW THAT THE PPD RECEIVED 54 PERCENT OF THE VOTES, THE APS 33 PERCENT, AND THE CDS FIVE PERCENT. THE PCP AND OTHER FAR LEFT PARTIES WON UNDER 3 PERCENT OF THE VOTE. THE DISTRIBUTION OF SEATS IN THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY IS AS REPORTED IN REFTEL. 36 PERCENT OF THOSE ELIGIBLE DID NOT VOTE, AND 3 PERCENT OF THE VOTES WERE BLANK OR NULL. MOST OBSERVERS HERE ATTRIBUTE THE PBBNEPRNX XANCE ON THE ICDISTO ITS GENERAL CONSERVATIVE IMAGE. MANY HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE HIGH ABSTENTION RATE (36 PERCENT). SOME HAVE CLAIMED IT IS A VOTE FOR FLA. HOWEVER THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THE ABSTENTIONS REPRESENT ANYTHING MORE THAN APATHY TOWARDS THE THIRD ELECTION IN A LITTLE OVER A YEAR.;

2. REGIONAL ASSEMBLY: THE AZOREAN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY WILL BEGIN WORK IN HORTA THE WEEK OF JULY 19TH. THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT,  
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HOWEVER, CANNOT BE FORMED UNTIL THE NEW GOP NAMES A MINISTER OF THE

REPUBLIC TO REPRESENT IT IN THE AZORES.

3. SPECULATION ABOUT THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT: SPECULATION ABOUT THE POSSIBLE COMPOSITION OF THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT DOMINATES POLITICAL CONVERSATIONS HERE. MOST BELIEVING LOCAL PPD LEADER, JOAO BOSCO MOTA AMARAL WILL RESIGN HIS SEAT IN THE ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC IN ORDER TO HEAD THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT. MOTA AMARAL HIMSELF DOES NOT DENY THIS. THE PPD HAS ESTABLISHED A COMMITTEE TO WORK WITH REGIONAL JUNTA IN THE TRANSITION PERIOD, AND PPD LEADERS HAVE GONE TO LISBON TO DISCUSS THE AZOREAN GOVERNMENT WITH THE NATIONAL PPD LEADERSHIP.

4. MOTA AMARAL IS MODERATELY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE NEAR FUTURE IN THE AZORES. HE SAID THERE IS REAL INTEREST IN INVESTING HERE, PARTICULARLY AMONG PEOPLE FROM THE CONTINENT. HE IS PLEASED WITH THE RECENT STATEMENTS BY LOCAL SOCIALISTS SAYING THEY CAN WORK WITH A PPD GOVERNMENT IN THE AZORES. HE ALSO EXPECTS POLITICAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT FROM THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP OF THE PPD. IN A RECENT NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW, MOTA AMARAL SAID HE EXPECTED THE GOP TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION PPD VIEWS IN CHOOSING A MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC TO REPRESENT THE GOP IN THE AZORES. HE INDICATED A PS MILITANT OR PPD DISSENTIENT WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE, BUT AN INDEPENDENT OR A MILITARY OFFICER WHO UNDERSTOOD THE AZORES WOULD BE. IN THE INTERVIEW, MOTA AMARAL HIGHLIGHTED THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE FOR PORTUGAL OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC EXPERIMENT IN THE AZORES AND MADEIRA.  
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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PINS, EWWT, PO, UR, CU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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